## Patrick A. Sweeney

June 15, 2007

COOKET HEE CONT CHIGHAL

FILED/ACCEPTED

JUN 19 2007

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

Marlene Dortch, Secretary Federal Communications Commission Office of the Secretary 445 12<sup>th</sup> Street SW Washington, DC 20554

RE: Docket #07-16

Dear Secretary Dortch:

Representing the citizens of Cleveland for thirty-three years in the Ohio General Assembly allowed me to see the disparity that arises from income inequalities. As the computer age moves ahead and creates more and greater opportunities for career advancement, free high-speed Internet access is critical for our urban areas. I support the application submitted by M2Z and urge prompt consideration of the request.

Cleveland has been ranked the poorest city in America two years out of three. Our school system consistently fails to graduate half the seniors in our high schools. According to statistics supplied by the National Center for Education, only 40% of our low-income households have access to the Internet, hindering their ability to keep current with the changes in technology. The digital divide cannot be crossed until every impediment is removed.

Free Internet access is as much an economic development tool as is a quality education. For a city such as Cleveland, M2Z's proposal represents an equal opportunity to compete in the global marketplace. I ask the Commission to approve Docket #7-16.

Sincerely,

Patrick A. Sweeney

Special Assistant, Government Relations

Cleveland State University

FCC Chairman Kevin Martin

Commissioner Copps

Commissioner Adelstein

Commissioner Tate

Commissioner McDowell

Fred Campbell, Wireless Bureau Chief

Senator George Voinovich

Senator Sherrod Brown

No. of Copies rec'd 2 List ABCDE